

PRESS RELEASE

Date: March 23rd, 2016

Subject: Traffic Stop/Mental Evaluation

Authority: Dean Schmidt/Chief of Police

At 4:43am a Slinger Police Officer attempted to stop a vehicle on STH 60/E. Commerce Blvd. for a traffic offense. The driver of the vehicle, for a short distance failed to yield to the squad with its emergency lights and siren activated.

The vehicle did eventually come to a stop on STH 60/E. Commerce Blvd. at the I41 ramp. The officer made contact with the 24 year old driver and explained his reasons for the stop. While speaking with the driver the officer noticed two large hunting knives sticking out between the driver's seat and center counsel. When the officer asked for identification the subject refused and stated the officer needed to leave as he planned to harm himself by using one of the knives or drive away and crash his vehicle. The officer backed away and requested assistance. The driver then grabbed one of the large knives and placed it to his throat. Upon arrival of assisting officers the driver's vehicle was boxed in so it could not move. Officers negotiated with the subject for about 1 ½ hours and were able to talk him into putting down the knife and stepping out of the vehicle.

The driver was then taken into custody and transported to a local hospital for mental evaluation. The driver was the only occupant in the vehicle at the time of the stop.

The Slinger Police Department was assisted by the Washington County Sheriff's Department, Jackson Police Department, Hartford Police Department and LifeStar Rescue.